

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MAPUTO 00768 101041Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 ACDA-07 /088 W
-----101051Z 016590 /20

R 091515Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5959
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 0768

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: RH, US, UK
SUBJECT: RHODESIAN RAID INTO MOZAMBIQUE

REF: STATE 124622

1. IN CHANCE MEETING WITH MUGABE AT RECEPTION ON
JUNE 5, AMBASSADOR OFFERED TO BRIEF MUGABE REGARDING
USG VIEWS AND ACTIONS ON RECENT RHODESIAN RAIDS IN
MOZAMBIQUE IF MUGABE OR HIS AIDES WERE INTERESTED.
IN RESPONSE THIS INVITATION, EDGAR TEKERE, ZANU AD-
MINISTRATIVE SECRETARY, AND MUKUDZINI MUDZI, ZANU EX-
TERNAL SECRETARY, CALLED TODAY AT THE EMBASSY. STRESSING
DEEP USG CONCERN OVER THE RAID, THE AMBASSADOR QUOTED FROM REFTEL
PUBLIC STATEMENT, MENTIONED THE PRIVATE DEMARCHE WE HAD MADE TO
SMITH, AND NOTED WE HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH GOVERNMENT OF
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MOZAMBIQUE TO SEEK PRESIDENT MACHEL'S VIEWS. TEKERE WISHED HE
COULD BE PRIVY TO MORE OF THE DETAILS OF WHAT WE HAD TOLD
SMITH, BUT EVEN SO SAID HE FOUND IT HELPFUL TO LEARN
HOW THE USG HAD REACTED AND HOPED WE WOULD PROVIDE
SIMILIAR BRIEFINGS IN FUTURE WHEN SITUATION WARRANTED.

2. AMBASSADOR AND POLITICAL OFFICER, WHO SAT IN ON

MEETING, SAID IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IN TURN IF EMBASSY COULD RECEIVE MORE INFORMATION ON ACTIVITIES OF ZANU AND LOCAL PATRIOTIC FRONT OFFICE. FOR EXAMPLE, WE ASKED TO BE NOTIFIED WHEN MUGABE OR PATRIOTIC FRONT MEMBER PLAN PRESS CONFERENCE AND TO BE PLACED ON MAILING LIST FOR PATRIOTIC FRONT COMMUNIQUE AND ITS BI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION "ZIMBABWE NEWS."

3. IN THIS CONTEXT, AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN HELPFUL FOR EMBASSY TO HAVE RECEIVED THE FULL TEXT OF MUGABE'S STATEMENT ON RHODESIAN RAIDS, EXCERPTS OF WHICH HAD APPEARED IN NOTICIAS ON JUNE 1 (MAPUTO 725), ADDING THAT HE PERSONALLY WAS DISAPPOINTED AND SURPRISED THAT MUGABE COULD IMAGINE THAT THE RHODESIAN RAID IN ANY WAY COULD HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF COMPLICITY OF THE UK OR U.S. AMBASSADOR SAID THAT IF MUGABE SERIOUSLY BELIEVED THAT THEN IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT WE STAYED IN MUCH CLOSER TOUCH. TEKERE AND MUDZI CHOSE NOT TO COMMENT, OTHER THAN TO SAY THAT MUGABE HAD ALREADY TALKED TO UK CHARGE DE CHASSIRON ABOUT THE STATEMENT. (IN FACT HE HAD, BUT DE CHASSIRON FOUND MUGABE'S INITIAL EXPLANATION WEAK, AND HOPES SOON TO HAVE A FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION WITH MUGABE ON THE SUBJECT. SEE MAPUTO 727.)

4. SUBJECT OF ZIMBABWEAN REFUGEES IN MOZAMBIQUE, WHICH WAS ALSO DISCUSSED, WILL BE SUBJECT SEPTTEL.
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